

The Rubbish RESOURCE



A Publication of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services, Waste Management Division

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Shy and Retiring?

At least the title's half right. Parker Morgan, after 27 years with the Department of Environmental Services, retired on June 27. Parker is well known to the "North Country" operators as their own primary planner. He has conducted many a site visit, usually by motorcycle. Parker is responsible for writing the department's Transfer Station Design Manual and has been a great help in developing the newest version of the Solid Waste Operator Training Manual. He has also been the editor of "The Rubbish Resource".



Parker started state employment with New Hampshire Employment Security. In less than a year, he moved to the Department of Environmental Services and worked in the Water Division for 15 years where he ran the Milford and Keene Subsurface Offices. For the last 12 years, he has worked for the Waste Management Division.

Parker intends to spend the first several years of his retirement traveling and he specifically wants to go to Alaska, Australia and Nova Scotia. He has recently started learning to play the Mandolin and will be able to use the extra time to perfect his skills with this instrument. A good friend and a source of history and information on DES, he will certainly be missed. Watch for him going by on his motorcycle and give him a wave.

Solid Waste Operator Training

The next Solid Waste Operator Training and Certification Course will be offered on October 22 and 23, 2003. We will now have TWO of these courses each year to accommodate the increasing number of applicants. More info will be mailed to the facilities and towns in August.

A Risky Business?

By Don Maurer

While the primary mission of the DES is to protect the environment, we would be remiss if we did not try to protect you also. The Solid Waste industry is indeed a risky business and it doesn't matter whether you work for a private industry or a public facility. Your chances of being injured on the job are 2½ times greater than general industry and your chance of death is 10 times higher. A search of OSHA inspections and accident reports yielded frightening results. Fatalities were often caused by accidents such as being crushed inside a compactor or being caught between a container and a wall. New Hampshire has already had one crush fatality this year. From the inspection data, Lock Out Tag Out, Machine Guarding, Hazard Communication and Personal Protective Equipment are the most often cited violations. Accident investigations cite guarding and Lock Out Tag Out problems as the more common causes. There has been at least one serious amputation in New Hampshire this year.

The Safety and Health Council of NH also offers courses every month and most of these are accepted for the continuing education requirement of your solid waste operator certificate. Contact them at (603)224-0998 or check out their website at www.shcnh.org. NHDES will continue to bring you courses each year to help you inspect your facilities and train your operators.

Recycler of the Year Award:



Pierce Rigrod (right) accepting Sami Izzo Award from Duncan Watson at NRRA Conference

On June 3, 2003, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association awarded Pierce Rigrod of DES with the 2003 Sami Izzo Recycler of the Year Award for his waste reduction work in the ski and tourism industries. Pierce has been working with the NH

Lodging & Restaurant Association and Public Service of NH to develop an environmental program called the Sustainable Lodging Program. The Sustainable Lodging Program is a multimedia environmental program that provides free environmental audits and information to determine the best ways to reduce environmental impacts at New Hampshire hotels, inns and related overnight accommodations. Pierce has also worked with the NH Travel Council to establish a Sustainable Business Award for its members. The award was given at this year's Annual Governor's Conference on Tourism and the winner was the Bretton Woods Ski Resort. Pierce approached their management and initiated what is currently one of the only comprehensive recycling programs at a ski facility in New Hampshire. For more information on the Sustainable Lodging Program, log onto:
<<http://www.des.state.nh.us/swtas/greenlodging/>>
or
<<http://www.nhlra.com/uploads/newsletters/1051879945may03.pdf>>..

FACTOID

Ever wonder how many certified operators there are in the State? Since the program started in 1990, 2428 operators have been trained, and as of May 2003, 808 hold a current certificate. Make sure yours doesn't lapse by attending a continuing education course each year and getting your renewal in on time. Problems with renewals can be easily resolved by calling Don Maurer at 271-2928

Operator Level	Solid Waste Operators	Incinerator Operators
1	89	2
2	104	5
3	211	7
4	345	45
Totals	749	59

or email at dmaurer@des.state.nh.us

Keep on top of solid waste issues: Join the Recycling List Serve today!
Sign on at the DES website: www.des.state.nh.us/swtas/listserv.htm.

The Chesterfield Transfer Station was hit by a fire in late August. While the fire itself was of a suspicious nature, it should remind us that our stations are vulnerable to fire from a number of causes. Fire inspections should be performed at least monthly. Operators should know how to use a fire extinguisher. Brush should be cleared from around storage piles and buildings and you should really consider having fire alarms installed that are monitored at a location that is occupied 24/7.

Stay Tuned – Next quarter we will have a new look and expanded coverage!

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